

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP2005/050609

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A01G23/06 B02C18/08 B02C18/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A01G B02C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 375 106 B1 (SEARS TODD) 23 April 2002 (2002-04-23) cited in the application	1,3
A	column 2, line 47 - line 49; figure 3	5
A	US 6 546 977 B1 (PAUMIER JAMES ET AL) 15 April 2003 (2003-04-15) cited in the application	1,5
A	column 2, line 50 - line 63; figures 1,2	
A	US 4 530 385 A (YORK NORMAN N) 23 July 1985 (1985-07-23) column 5, line 14 - line 50; figure 5	1,5
A	DE 296 02 918 U (FALLNBUEGL FRANZ) 25 April 1996 (1996-04-25) page 5, final paragraph - page 6, line 7 figures 1,2	1,5
	----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 apo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bunn, D

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2005/050609

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 873 534 A (SHINN RICKEY D) 23 February 1999 (1999-02-23) column 3, line 29 - line 33; figures -----	1,5

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/050609

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6375106	B1	23-04-2002	NONE	
US 6546977	B1	15-04-2003	CA EP	2415116 A1 1330950 A2
US 4530385	A	23-07-1985	CA US US	1223794 A1 4621668 A 4681145 A
DE 29602918	U	25-04-1996	AT DE	770 U1 29602918 U1
US 5873534	A	23-02-1999	CA	2248954 A1